

## Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05

MCT-01 IO-13 ICA-11 BIB-01 PA-01 SP-02 /055 W

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P 121400Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8367

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1193

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PLO, AG

SUBJ: PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION IN ALGERIA

REF: STATE 091578

FOR: INR/RNA

1. PLO MAINTAINS ONE OFFICE IN ALGIERS WITH STAFF OF 19 PERSONS HEADED BY FATAH MEMBER FAROUK YOUNES (AKA ABU HASSAN). IN MAY 1977, PLO OFFICE WAS ACCORDED FULL DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION BY GOA WHEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARAB LEAGUE DECISION, IT WAS INCLUDED FOR FIRST TIME IN ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DIPLOMATIC LIST. PRIOR TO THAT TIME PLO OFFICE ENJOYED OFFICIAL, BUT NOT DIPLOMATIC, STATUS.

2. PLO IS ONLY PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATION OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY GOA. WITH EXCEPTION OF FATAH (WHICH IS ALWAYS REPRESENTED IN OFFICIAL PLO MISSIONS, AND WHICH HAS INFORMATION CENTER IN DOWNTOWN ALGIERS, NONE OF COMPONENT ELEMENTS OF PLO (I.E., PFLP, PDFLP, SAIQA, ALF, ETC.) IS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY GOA OR MAINTAINS UNOFFICIAL REPRESENTATION IN ALGIERS. HOWEVER, THEIR LEADERS, NOTABLY HABBASH, HAWATMEH AND JIBRIL, VISIT HERE REGULARLY AND RECEIVE RED CARPET TREATMENT. ALSO, THERE ARE STUDENT GROUPS WITHIN ALGIERS UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY WHICH MAY BE IDEOLOGICALLY ALIGNED WITH PLO COMPONENT ELEMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, STUDENT FACTIONS ALIGNED WITH VARIOUS OF THESE GROUPS MAY EXIST WITHIN GUPS (GENERAL UNION OF

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PALESTINIAN STUDENTS) JSUT AS SOME STUDENTS WITHIN SYRIAN STUDENTS' UNION MAY BE PRO-SAIQA. THESE STUDENT GROUPS ARE UNOFFICIAL AND DO NOT FALL INTO CATEGORY OF EITHER FULLY OR PARTIALLY ACCREDITED MISSIONS.

3. TOTAL PALESTINIAN POPULATION IN ALGERIA (INCLUDING DOCTORS, TEACHERS, LAWYERS, ETC.) IS AROUND 5,000. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT,

WITHIN THIS FIGURE, SOME PALESTINIANS UNDERTAKE PART-TIME "STRINGER" UPUBLIC RELATIONS WORK FOR POLO OFFICE IN OUTLYING AREAS, BUT ARE NEITHER RECOGNIZED AS EMPLOYEES OF THE PLO OFFICE NOR GRANTED DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES. UNLIKE OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN ALGIERS, PLO MAINTAINS LIAISON WITH GOA THROUGH OFFICE OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF FLN RATHER THAN VIA MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

4. PLO'S NEWS AGENCY, Wafa, MAINTAINS BUREAU IN ALGIERS. ITS MAIN FUNCTION IS TO PRODUCE ONE-HOUR "VOICE OF PALESTINE" PROGRAM ON RADIO ALGIERS EACH DAY.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION EXCHANGE, PALESTINIANS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
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